PATENT

I hereby certify that on the date specified below, this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to Box Missing Parts, Commissioner of Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Trung T. Doan and

Serial No. : 10/054,692

Attorney Docket No.: 500300.02

Gurtei S. Sandhu

Group Art Unit

: 3725

Filed

: December 19, 2001

Examiner

: not yet assigned

Title

: POLISHING PAD REFURBISHER FOR IN SITU, REAL-TIME CONDITIONING AND CLEANING OF A POLISHING PAD USED IN CHEMICAL-MECHANICAL

POLISHING OF MICROELECTRONIC SUBSTRATES

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Box Missing Parts Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97 through 1.98, applicants wish to make known to the Patent and Trademark Office the references set forth on the attached form PTO-1449. This application relies, under 35 U.S.C. § 120, on the earlier filing date of prior Application No. 09/032,230, filed February 27, 1998, and issued December 21, 1999, as Patent No. 6,004,196. The references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 were submitted to and/or cited by the Patent and Trademark Office in this prior application and, therefore, are not required to be provided in this application. If the Examiner wishes, copies will be provided upon request.

Although the aforesaid references are made known to the Patent and Trademark Office in compliance with applicants' duty to disclose all information they are aware of which is believed relevant to the examination of the above-identified application, applicants believe that their invention is patentable.

Please acknowledge receipt of this Information Disclosure Statement and kindly make the cited references of record in the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure:

Form PTO-1449

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